

SPACES AND CONNECTIONS

*Call Out for Collaborative / Socially Engaged Artist (s).
Community residency research award
Southside Partnership*



INTRODUCTION

In 2022 Southside Partnership has been awarded research funding from the Arts Council's Creative Places initiative. This research funding will support the first phase in building artistic and creative responses across and in the communities of Ballybrack/Loughlinstown in the Dún Laoghaire-Rathdown area of Dublin.

Southside Partnership now seeks to engage an artist(s)/ artist team for one year that will work with them on delivering a research-based collaborative / socially engaged art practice activities. The aim of these is to increase the development of diverse artistic, creative and active community and public spaces in the communities of Ballybrack/Loughlinstown.

Southside Partnership's Creative Places research funding award is in response to how Covid 19 has played a vital role in building new interconnections and communication in a wide range of public spaces that have grown during this time between the Loughlinstown and Ballybrack community organisations and local residents. This new award will support the building of new creative and artistic practices in and between local communities and across local public spaces. It has opened interesting and vital new ways of approaching and interconnecting and changing the potential of our local public space in the Ballybrack/Loughlinstown.



PROPOSED ARTIST (s) ROLE 2022 / 2023

Through our Creative Places research award, we seek to work with artists from any arts or medium and have a particular interest in ecological, activist, visual art, film, and/or performing arts/theatre/music. The artists will work with the Ballybrack/Loughlinstown community to explore and identify how we might build upon these community relationships with an artists or artists team, how we can collaborate, communicate, and interconnect.

Southside Partnership believes in and values creative and arts-based practices and how they can build a framework for arts and community initiatives. We have witnessed how participation and enthusiasm for improved public realm and green public space across our local communities can thrive, grow and diversify progress through the development of those shared spaces.



LOCAL COMMUNITY PROJECTS

The successful artist in residence will be hosted in the community of Ballybrack/Loughlinstown over the course of 12 months. The artist will be based in Holly House Community Resource Centre and during the course of the research residency award will have access to the following community programmes.

- Holly House, children, young people at risk, families and local community group (LCG's) including HH Women's Group
- Ballybrack Community Centre, Art, Craft classes, Mas of Ballybrack LCG, over 65's Health and Wellbeing classes
- The Loughlinstown, Ballybrack Shankill Men's Shed
- Springboard Family Support (Tusla)
- LAB Project (Loughlinstown and Ballybrack Youth Diversion Project (formerly known as Garda youth diversion project)
- Crosscare Youth Service Ballybrack



Below are images of Holly House Community Resource Centre, Ballybrack Project Centre and Loughlinstown Ballybrack Shankill Mens Shed





Below is Artists Space in Holly House





ARTIST BUDGET AND PROFESSIONAL SUPPORTS

- The fee for the Spaces and Connections residency is €17,500 (inclusive of VAT) with a materials budget of €2,000 and access to community space (in kind) to the value of €2,300.
- The deadline for receipt of proposals is 24th October at 5pm.
- The timeline for the residency award is late November 2022 to October 2023.
- The selected artist (s) team will be offered additional professional support via four mentoring sessions to support and enhance their socially engaged arts practice and engagement with key stakeholders during the research award.
- A researcher will be engaged to work with the artist through this process and will support the work on the ground.

PROPOSAL / APPLICATION PROCESS

This is an open call selection process. We welcome proposals from a cross section of socially engaged / collaborative artist(s)

We ask proposals to include the following:

Applicants are required to submit the following:

- Curriculum Vitae, detailing experience relevant and suitable to this research project.
- Please include links to previous relevant work.
- Two A4 pages / expression of interest with a broad outline of how the artist will approach the residency (Criteria 3)
- 2 referees for relevant previous work

SELECTION CRITERIA

Southside Partnership will form a selection panel that comprises of community development, youth and arts expertise. The panel will apply the following criteria and it will be weighted accordingly:

1. Demonstrated suitability of socially engaged practice and principle-driven work (30/100)
2. Evidenced experience of working with groups within the context of community development (30/100)
3. Suitability of proposed outline in engaging the communities of Ballybrack and Loughlinstown (40/100)

Applications should be marked Spaces and Connections, Socially Engaged Artist in Residence and sent to recruit@adarehrm.ie by 24th October at 5pm.

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Suitable applications that meet the criteria will be shortlisted and contacted on or before 2nd November.

To discuss proposals in greater detail please contact Sandra King, sandra.king@sspship.ie. Please note, we will host an artist Information session on Thursday 13th October that will include a walk around Loughlinstown and Ballybrack.

This Artist in Residence opportunity is supported by the Creative Places Research and Development grant, Southside Partnership and their partners.

Southside Partnership DLR is an Equal Opportunities Employer. No late applications will be accepted, and canvassing will lead to disqualification. Any offer will be subject to satisfactory references and Garda vetting as appropriate. All data collection must be compliant with GDPR protection.

APPENDIX

Introduction & Context

In 2020 Ireland felt like it came to a stand- still with the arrival of Covid. The communities of Loughlinstown and Ballybrack felt the full force of restrictions and those experiencing the most disadvantage in the community were hit the hardest. Families experienced food poverty due to layoffs at work, young people experienced high levels of anxiety and social isolation, parents struggled to engage/support children with their educational needs, older people and local community groups could no longer come together.

However, through the disruption to community life, the communities of Ballybrack and Loughlinstown banded together in their purposeful, collaborative community response. The Community Centres, Men's Sheds and local Care and Repair team came together to deliver food packs, educational, art and crafts packs to children, prescription drops to older people and outdoor books swaps to encourage learning and curiosity during lockdown. When governmental restrictions mandated groups to meet outdoors, it became clear that our outdoor spaces were a precious – and potentially underused - means to connect the community together.

The challenge of Covid 19 brought new responses these included outdoor coffee mornings became the norm; book clubs, aerobics and chair gym classes were held in the green area outside Ballybrack Community Centre; street art, dance and yoga for children and young people all took place in the Holly House carpark; outdoor summer camps enlivened the community.

However, what did emerge was key collaborations between the communities to ensure all community members were supported and cared for. The communities began to use public spaces in novel ways which seemed to catalyse a creative movement. The LBS Mens Shed cleared green spaces in the local DEIS schools to create an extra play area for children, Ballybrack offered their green space to the children's summer camp, a range of health and wellbeing classes for older people took place across the communities and the Men's Shed continued to support men of all ages, which helped tremendously to mitigate isolation and distress. LAB (Lough-linstown, Ballybrack Youth Prevention Programme), Holly House, Ballybrack, Crosscare and An Garda Siochana came together to address a high level of anti-

social problems in the football field. The space was opened up to young people with services coming together to roll out sport, dance and BBQs, with over 50 young people engaged weekly and this initiative is still ongoing. DLRCC Arts Office, Community Dept and Parks Dept all provided support to the community in terms of grant support for programmes, building support and environmental projects including tree planting, outdoor memorial tree and the development of a mini forest in Ballybrack.

While larger towns such as Dún Laoghaire and Blackrock all benefited from investment to enhance outdoors spaces such as flowerpots and benches, Loughlinstown and Ballybrack did not receive the same investment.

Additional links:

- <https://southsidepartnership.ie/wp-content/uploads/2022/08/Apendix-1-SSP-Socio-economic-profile-Ballybrack-Loughlinstown.pdf>
- <https://southsidepartnership.ie/>
- <https://southsidepartnership.ie/wp-content/uploads/2022/08/Connecting-the-Dots-Report.pdf>



The Social Inclusion and Community Activation Programme (SICAP) 2018-2022 is funded by the Irish Government through the Department of Rural and Community Development and co-funded by the European Social Fund under the Programme for Employability, Inclusion and Learning (PEIL) 2014-2020